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shewn from 10 to 12 o'clock. Master Richards was not however to be dissuaded from his benevolent intention. He went up to the boys, and asked them, how they could be so cruel as to make sport of hurting a poor innocent creature. Do you not think, added he, that it would give *you* pain to be fixed to the ground, and thrown at with great cudgels? They said, they only did like other boys and men. Like other *naughty* boys and men, answered master Richards, but it is no reason for your doing wrong, that others do so too. Many people rob, others commit murder, but is that a reason for you to be guilty of those crimes, and now I mention robbery, pray how did you get this poor animal? They held down their heads. Ah! says master Richards, I doubt you have been dishonest, you stole this cock.

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cock. Tell me the truth, and don't add the fault of a lie to those of theft and cruelty. They owned they took the cock from farmer Wilson's. Well then, says master Richards, I insist upon your going with me, and carrying it back to him, and asking his pardon; I will intreat of him not to beat you for this time, on condition you promise to do so no more; and as I have spoiled what you think, *sport*, I will give you three pence a-piece, and you may make for yourselves some plaything that will afford you as much diversion, without hurting any creature.

The young gentlemen had now lost all patience; they told master Richards, he had better give the boys the money, and they would carry back the cock. No, answered he, I dare not trust them, nor could I enjoy the

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